

would be a monarchy in fact; and if he had undertaken to exercise it in the case of Kansas, he would have been justly subject to the charge of usurpation, and of violation of the dearest rights of the people of the United States.

Unwise laws equally with irregularities at elections, are, in periods of great excitement, the occasional incidents of even the freest and best political institutions. But all experience demonstrates that in a country like ours, where the right of self-constitution exists in the complete form, the attempt to remedy a legislative error by a resort to revolution, is totally out of place; inasmuch as existing legal institutions afford more prompt and efficacious means for the redress of wrong.

Evidently true that now, when the peaceful condition of Kansas affords opportunity for calm reflection and wise legislation, either the legislative assembly of the Territory, or Congress, will see that no act shall remain on its statute-book violative of the provisions of the Constitution, or subversive of the great objects for which that was ordained and established, and will take all other necessary steps to assure to its inhabitants the enjoyment, without obstruction or abridgement, of all the constitutional rights, privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, as contemplated by the organic law of the Territory.

LEGISLATURE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Monday, December 8, 1856.
SENATE met at 12 M., and received from House sundry bills which had received two readings—among them: A bill to incorporate the Laurensville Female College and a bill to incorporate the French Broad and Greenville Railroad.

The committee to nominate a President and Directors for the Bank of the State reported the following nominations:
For President—C. M. Furman.

For Directors—J. C. J. P. Deveney, W. C. Dukes, Albert E. P. C. Gailard, F. Lanneau, Thomas L. H. J. Shepherd, A. S. Simons, L. W. Spratt, J. H. Steuneger, H. F. Strohecker.

After a report from committee on the contingent accounts of the Governor.
A message was sent to the House, inviting it to convene on Wednesday next at 2 p. m., and immediately afterwards for Lieutenant Governor.

The bill to repeal the laws, being on the second reading, was rejected.

A bill to amend the construction of the Savannah River Railway was read a second time and sent to the House for concurrence.

The bill to alter the 10th section of the first article of the constitution was laid on the table.

A bill authorizing certified entries from Sheriff's books to be given in evidence was agreed to.

After further business, Senate adjourned.

House—Sunday.
The committee to receive two separate resolutions—among them one to elect the Sheriff and King's Mountain Iron Company Lockhart's Shovel Canal. Numerous reports were made from committees.

The first special order—a bill to amend an act to authorize aid to the Blue Ridge Railroad Company in South Carolina—was taken up, and after being argued at length by Mr. Gregg, was, on motion, discharged, and made the special order for Friday.

The several special orders were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Tuesday, December 9, 1856.
SENATE—Senate met at 12 M. After the usual morning session.

Mr. MARSHALL, from the Military Committee, reported favorably upon the resolution authorizing the presentation of a sword to Maj. D. H. Hill, U. S. A.

The bill against duelling received a second reading and was ordered to the House.

The joint resolution to purchase the Iron Palmetto from the State of Georgia, and to send to the House for concurrence.

The report of the Committee on a Geological Survey of the State, as recommended by the Governor, was concurred in.

At half-past two Senate proceeded to the House, and joined it in a ballot for Governor, and immediately after for Lieutenant Governor.

House—Senate sent to the House a number of bills to which two readings had been given, which were read a first time and referred.

The committee to which had been referred the Governor's recommendation to re-open the slave trade asked leave to sit during the recess of the Legislature.

The bill to increase the compensation of members of the Legislature to \$5 per day was rejected—yeas 40, nays 70.

The proposition to codify the statute law, civil and criminal, was agreed to.

The resolution appropriating \$17,000, and an unexpended balance of \$13,000 from a former appropriation, for the new buildings of the Lunatic Asylum, was agreed to and sent to Senate.

Senate resolution fixing the day of adjournment on the 18th inst. taken up, discussed, amended so as to adjourn on the 22d, and passed.

Adjourned.

Elaborate debate on the President's message is the chief business of Congress, on the reference to Committees. Several of our own delegation had something to say, repelling the misrepresentations of abolition and fanaticism. Gen. Whitfield was admitted to his seat, as Delegate from Kansas, by a majority of 4.

From Nicaragua.
Late accounts from Walker show more fighting and new successes to his arms. A body of 200 attacked, on the 10th ult., 1,100 Costa Ricans and others, defeating the latter with a loss of 200, while only 2 of the former were killed and wounded.

At Mesava the fighting lasted four days, when the enemy were routed. Walker returned in triumph to Granada, gave the inhabitants time to remove their property, and then fired the place. He then removed his army to Rivas, which will hereafter be the capital of Nicaragua. There was also a fight between a Nicaraguan armed schooner and a Costa Rican brig of war. The latter was blown up, and all on board perished. In all the engagements since October it is thought the enemy's loss has been 3,000 men.

WASHINGTON, December 10.—The new treaty with England, negotiated by our Minister, Mr. Dallas, has just been communicated to the United States Senate, and is now under discussion before that body in secret session. I learn that the treaty provides for a reciprocity between this and several of the European governments outside of England, but I presume it must mean reciprocity only so far as their West India possessions are concerned. Free trade with the governments of France and Spain would prove disastrous to our revenue, and force upon the government the necessity of direct taxation;—which, by the by, in the opinion of many able Southern statesmen, is the true policy of the country. When the people know and feel the amount of taxation imposed upon them, they will be more certainly know what becomes of the public funds. That portion of the treaty touching Nicaraguan affairs, will, it is anticipated, create a great discussion in the Senate.—*Charleston Standard.*

After disposing of some unimportant bills, Senate adjourned.

House.—After meeting and acting upon the morning business, the general orders were taken up—and the House proceeded to consider the bill

to amend the act requiring the imprisonment of foreign colored seamen entering the ports of this State. After debate it was read a second time and sent to the Senate—yeas 61, nays 40.

The use of the Hall of the House was given to the President of the Blue Ridge Railroad to explain the condition and prospects of the road to the members, and

The House adjourned.

Thursday, December 11, 1856.
Bills that had two readings were received from the Senate and referred.

Mr. TILLINGHAM submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Vacant Offices to report a uniform time for appointing the various district judges.

Adopted.

The report on the contingent accounts of the Governor was adopted.

Messages concerning the inauguration of the new Governor were interchanged, and the requisite committees appointed.

The general order occupied attention until the hour for inauguration, when Senate attended the ceremonies, after which an adjournment took place.

House.—The House met, and received from the Senate for concurrence an act to prevent duelling.

A resolution directing the duty of the school commissioners to publish in a district paper their reports was adopted.

The general orders were entered upon until the hour fixed for the special order—a bill to alter and amend the judicial system. This bill provides for four terms of the Court in Charleston and an additional law judge.

Pending the discussion the House proceeded with the inaugural ceremonies. On their completion the judicial bill was resumed all the evening hours.

At seven o'clock the discussion recommenced. After various propositions to amend, commit, &c., the question was taken on ordering the bill to the Senate, and decided affirmatively—yeas 53, nays 50.

Mr. Alexander's bill to extend the system of public education was taken up, as the 2d special order, and after being debated by a number of members, was sent to the Senate by a vote of 77 to 43.

The House adjourned.

Friday, December 12, 1856.
SENATE—After the reception of reports and accounts from the House.

A resolution was adopted ordering an Extra Session of the Legislature on the fourth Monday of May.

Also, a resolution requiring the preparation and printing of a pamphlet, under direction of the Comptroller General, embracing all the fees, &c., allowed to sheriffs, magistrates, &c., the forms of execution, and a plan of distributing the work throughout the State.

The resolution of the Committee on the Lunatic Asylum, appropriating \$17,000 to pay the foundation of a building on the Asylum Grounds, east of the present structure, was adopted.

A bill to increase the salaries of the Attorney General and Solicitors was laid on the table.

A bill providing for the imprisonment, advertisement, and management of runaway negroes, was rejected.

A bill to amend the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution had a second reading and passed by a two-thirds vote. Adjourned.

House.—The House met at 11 o'clock.

The following bills having received three readings in the Senate, were changed to acts, and sent to the Senate:

Bill to incorporate the Greenville and French Broad Railroad Company, within the limits of South Carolina.

Bill to provide for the election of Commissioners of Free Schools by the people of the County and District of the Cherokee and the Cherokee and Dawson Railroad Company.

The House passed the general orders, and ordered to the Senate, among other matters, the general incorporation bill.

The following bills were rejected:

Bill to increase the salaries of the Judges of Law and Equity.

Bill to increase the salary of the Governor and to provide for his residence in Columbia.

Bill to amend the charter of the joint stock banks in this State.

Bill to amend the act granting aid to the Blue Ridge Railroad was taken up for consideration. Before any action thereon was taken, a resolution, offered by Mr. Seaborn, allowing Judge Frost, the President of that road, to be heard before the bar of the House, elicited some discussion, but finally prevailed by a vote of 62 to 54. Whereupon, on motion, the House took a recess until 7 o'clock p. m.

At 7 o'clock the House resumed its session.

SENATE—received many bills from the House, which were appropriately disposed of.

The chief business of the day was of private and local character, except resolutions reducing the salaries of the Chief Architect and assistant on the new Capitol, to \$4,000 and \$1,500, and raising a special joint Committee on the Capitol, to whom shall be referred all matters relating thereto.

House.—The resolution to purchase the Palmetto Tree was adopted.

Passing to the general orders, the following bills were read a second time and ordered to the Senate:

A bill to regulate foreign insurance agencies, and a bill to increase the salaries of the Attorney General and Solicitors.

The bill to increase the compensation of members of the Legislature to \$5 per day was rejected—yeas 40, nays 70.

The proposition to codify the statute law, civil and criminal, was agreed to.

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Adjourned.

The Spartan.

SPARTANBURG:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1856.

AGENCY.

Mr. A. R. BARR is our authorized agent at Columbus, North Carolina.

PUB. DOCS.
Our thanks are due to Gen. O. E. Edwards, Compt. General Ashmore, and Senator Evans, for public documents—State and Federal.

THE SOUTHERN LIGHT.
Rev. E. L. Whitley has associated with him G. W. Landrum in the conduct of the Southern Light. It will commence the next volume with new type, new editor, and new arrangements generally, together with an increase of eight pages to the work. It claims to be no religious organ, but set for the defence of truth. Address the editors, Edgefield, S. C.

CORN SHELLERS.
Farmers and planters who are in want of a superior Corn-sheller will do well to call on STRENGTH. We have tried the article, solely to be satisfied of its merit, and are now entirely so. A man to turn the crank and a boy to feed can shell one hundred ears of well dried corn in 2 to 24 minutes. The price of the machine is low, and every man raising 100 bushels of corn should have one.

THE USURY LAWS.
Efforts to repeal the usury laws have been partially successful in several of the Northern States. In New York a modification was effected, but not satisfactory to money-dealers. The chamber of commerce has adopted a form of act to take the place of the present one, which they hope to carry this session. It contemplates that borrowers and lenders shall be free, on all drafts and notes having not more than eight months to run, to make such bargain as they please; but where a suit is lawfully brought, the courts can only allow the regular rate of interest.

Another attempt to modify our own interest laws has failed this session, notwithstanding powerful influences were brought to bear upon the members of the Legislature. We hope similar success may attend every attempt to remove those salutary restrictions now imposed upon dealers in money. The banks exert a power over property totally indefensible, and we object most positively against hindering the people over, bound hand and foot, to the tender mercies of capitalists.

COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.
The Southern Commercial Convention met in Savannah on the 8th inst. James Lyons, Esq. of Va., was made President. A Business Committee of two from each State was appointed, to take various propositions were referred.

About six hundred delegates are present, representing ten Southern States.

The chief subjects before the body were—direct trade with Europe, the Pacific railroad, free trade and direct taxation, the reopening the slave trade, detective police to ferret out abolitionists in the South, railroads, mail contracts to South America, improvement of Southern harbors.

The slave trade resolutions gave rise to warm discussion, but the subject, though treated with courtesy, met but little sympathy. South Carolina, Alabama, and Texas, voted in favor of taking the resolutions from the table, but, as explained by a delegate in the Carolinian, it was no index of approval.

The next meeting of the Convention will be at Knoxville, Tennessee, in August.

THE BANK TAX.
Prior to 1852 a bonus was exacted by the State from banking corporations for their privileges. By the act of 1852, chartering sundry new banks, the mode of taxation was changed, so that "the capital and property of all banks incorporated or rechartered by said act should be liable to taxation in the same manner as the capital stock and property of individuals and of other corporations."

This mode of taxation gives representative strength to those districts where banks are located, at the expense of those in which none exist, it is a heavy tax upon a portion of the capital stock of banks. To explain: If Spartanburg, through her citizens, holds \$100,000 of the capital stock of the banks in Charleston, the tax levied upon this capital gives to the Parish of St. Philip and St. Michael additional representation in the Legislature, and by that much abates from the political power of Spartanburg.

This is manifestly unjust. To remedy this, at the present session Dr. Winthrop proposed a bill to change the existing to the old mode, by which a solid bonus would be paid without becoming an element of representation. As power is always selfish, the measure failed. The low country will voluntarily grasp on no prerogative, and the representatives from the Upper Division do not possess that esprit du corps necessary to success. Concert of action alone can produce this result; but this can be effected only through the horrible caucus system—a bugbear to frighten neophytes, but at proper times a very good gift to old fogies.

RELIGION IN HIGH PLACES.—It is a bright sign of promise to find the great truths of the Christian religion recognized in the high places of the earth. At the conclusion of Mr. Crittenden's eulogy upon the late Mr. Clayton, delivered in the Senate, on the 3d inst. is the following remark:

"It must be pleasing to us all to learn from the honorable Senator from Delaware (Mr. Bayard) that Mr. Clayton died a Christian. So he should have died. Such a death gives to humanity a proper dignity. Full of the world's honor he died full of the more precious hope that he beyond the grave. Of him who so dies we may well exclaim, 'the death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?'"

THE AUTHOR.—Last week we gave it as our opinion that Park Gidwin was the author of the attack on the 8th published in the Edinburgh Review. The N. Y. Evening Post says the author is Wm. Henry Horlbert, a native of South Carolina, but the Washington Star denies that Rev. Mr. Horlbert is of this State, and says he is an abolitionist preacher. Who can tell?

MISSISSIPPI.—Gov. McKee had before the Legislature of Mississippi, on the 1st inst. his biennial message. It is chiefly confined to abolition interference with the slave, and the position heretofore taken by Mississippi and Georgia.

APPOINTMENT.—The Palmetto Association of Rebellious elected Gen. Samuel McGowan, of Company E, their nominal war orator.

ACCIDENT.—We regret to hear that a young lad named Ruebeck had his head crushed, near Van Patton's shoals, a few days ago, causing his death. We have no particulars.

THE COLLEGE.—An effort has been made in the Legi-lature to make public the amount which the State has appropriated, for the benefit of the College, from its foundation. The friends of this institution are too wise and too strong to permit it however. This is just what we expected; the affairs of the Institution must not be pyed into.

MR. BUCHANAN AND KANSAS.
Some suspicion of Mr. Buchanan's political honesty of views about Kansas is indulged by some very suspicious papers in this State, based upon remarks made in the United States Senate by Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania, on the 8th inst. In the course of his remarks on the Kansas question he was interrupted by Mr. Wade, who asked whether Mr. Buchanan was in favor of making Kansas a free State?

"Mr. Bigler replied that the views of Mr. Buchanan were those of democrats generally. He was for allowing the people of the territory or State to decide for themselves, but he could not have his choice, he would, no doubt, prefer that it should be a free State."

It is strange that such a frail support should be required to bear so large a superstructure. Contrary to the whole animus of the speech of Mr. Bigler—contrary to the platform of the Cincinnati convention—contrary to the letter of acceptance of Mr. Buchanan and his whole recorded history—there matter of preference (on the remark of a man in nowise authorized to expound his views)—Mr. Buchanan is to be assailed and stigmatized as an untruthful and hypocritical! Mr. Bigler was defending the message of President Pierce from the fierce assaults of Abolitionist Senators, and had just declared "this opinion that time and experience would prove the wisdom of the measures of this administration, and the day was not far in the future when the purity and patriotism of the President would be acknowledged by all." This message and the measures of this administration have not unqualified approval at the South, and are maintained by so rational and honest a purpose, his smallest word is turned into proof of the rottenness of Mr. Buchanan.

In summing up what had been determined by the late election, Mr. Bigler held that the most important fact was,

"That the principles of the democratic party, as enunciated at Cincinnati and expounded by Mr. Buchanan—the most prominent feature being that of the people of the States who were going into the territories shall enjoy the right to determine the character of their local institutions in their own way, including that of domestic slavery—these principles were to be in the ascendant until 1860."

The foregoing expression of Mr. Bigler, with another—that he "had great admiration for the Southern statesmen who declare that they can stay in the Union only in the position of equals," will be in common by Mr. Buchanan—afford ample assurance that the President elect will take back no pledge to which he stands committed in administering the Government.

NEWS SCRAPS.
Robert A. Pagan has been chosen Sheriff of Chester District.

The bank of Tennessee and branches were closed on the 8th inst. in consequence of their insolvency.

Jiferan Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., well-known to Southern students, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 5th inst. 10,000 volumes were in the library.

Col. J. A. Harvey and 90 free State men in Kansas denounced the Ad Societies as speculating concerns originating in Massachusetts, and warn honest men to be duped by their bleeding Kansas cries no longer.

J. G. Palfrey, ex-mem. of Congress from Massachusetts, is about to write a history of New England.

The Supreme Court of North Carolina has affirmed the decision of an inferior court, that under the prescribed form of law the oaths of universalists cannot be taken.

Maj. Louis Gally, commander of the famous battery that served with Gen. Taylor at Corpus Christi in 1845, and a soldier of Napoleon's, died in New Orleans on the 24 inst.

A. P. Cook, Del. from Arizona (the new Territory in the Gadsden purchase) is now in Washington. He says the territory has a population of 10,000 or 15,000.

There is a negro in Webster, Va., 126 years old. He was born two years before Washington, and was 46 years old when independence was declared.

Honore Greeley has abandoned his aims for the reconstruction of human society.

Four negroes were hung at Dover, Tenn., on the 8th inst., for being implicated in the late rebellion.

It is contradicted that Justice Wayne, of the U. S. Supreme Court, has been attacked with paralysis.

From the South Carolinian of December 12.
THE INAGURATION.
At 1 p. m. yesterday, the Senate, with the Judges of the State, and the members of the College, and other public officers, attended in the Hall of the House of Representatives, to witness the inauguration of Governor Allston.

The Governor elect was escorted by Ex-Gov. Adams and the Committee of Arrangements, to the Speaker's desk, and was received by the House standing and uncovered.

He addressed the assembly as follows:
Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Senate, Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: In obedience to your summons to assume the Executive office, I now appear before you to take the usual oath. Its compulsory terms embrace the only pledge I have to give. Still I feel, with profound respect to the representatives of the people, grateful to acknowledge the token of the public confidence, and to express my sensibility of the honor which you have been pleased to bestow.

Aware that my election is owing more to you, kind and generous, than to my own merits, I propose to bring, generally, the like course of administration to my own aid, and to my personal fitness or merit of my own; aware, too, that the office is invested with low prerogatives, and but little patronage, yet I accept it at your hands as a post of high honor and duty, and I trust, let me be permitted to say, to meet your expectations. I have no right to rely on the good will which you have thus exhibited to judge me candidly, to advise me frankly, and to sustain me generously throughout my term of office. I feel that you may not be disappointed in your estimate of my powers, and I feel I may be enlightened and qualified for the high responsibility.

With less ardor in my nature—with far less courage and ability to enforce my views—I propose to bring, generally, the like course of administration to my own aid, and to my personal fitness or merit of my own; aware, too, that the office is invested with low prerogatives, and but little patronage, yet I accept it at your hands as a post of high honor and duty, and I trust, let me be permitted to say, to meet your expectations. I have no right to rely on the good will which you have thus exhibited to judge me candidly, to advise me frankly, and to sustain me generously throughout my term of office. I feel that you may not be disappointed in your estimate of my powers, and I feel I may be enlightened and qualified for the high responsibility.

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